

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-3

NEW YORK TIMES
16 May 1984

Helms Is Reportedly Rebuked in Senate

By MARTIN TOLCHIN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 15 — The chairman and vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence have rebuked Senator Jesse Helms for disclosing secret committee information in violation of the rules of the Senate, according to two committee members and sources close to the committee.

The rebuke was made in an "Eyes Only" letter to the Senate majority and minority leaders, they said. The letter was handwritten and hand delivered by Senators Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona and chairman of the intelligence committee, and Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Democrat of New York and the committee's vice chairman. The rebuke was reiterated in conversations between the committee leaders and the Senate leaders.

The letter asked the two leaders to remind the senators that disclosure of secret committee information was a violation of Senate rules and was subject to disciplinary action. Violations of Senate rules can be punished by reprimand, censure or even expulsion. The two leaders complied and sent letters to the senators reminding them of their obligation not to reveal information from the intelligence committee.

Helms Does Not Comment

There was no immediate discussion of disciplining Mr. Helms. His press secretary, Barbara Lukens, was asked for comment by the Senator, and she said she would relay the request to Mr. Helms. But neither she nor the Senator had any comment.

The rebuke and letter were prompted by Mr. Helms's charge last week that the Central Intelligence Agency had secretly aided the campaign of José Napoleón Duarte, the winner in El Salvador's runoff presidential election this month, the two committee members said.

The letter, shown to the two Senate leaders on Monday, is in the committee's safe. It was described as reflecting the unanimous view of committee members that the Senate rules had been broken by Mr. Helms.

Mr. Helms was specifically mentioned by Mr. Goldwater and Mr. Moynihan when they delivered the letter to Senators Howard H. Baker Jr., Republican of Tennessee and the majority leader, and Robert C. Byrd, Democrat of West Virginia and the minority leader.

"This is the first time they've ever sent a letter to the leadership stating that a senator had broken the rules," a committee member said.

What Helms Charged

Mr. Helms charged last week that the C.I.A. had used several covert devices to aid Mr. Duarte's election campaign at the expense of his opponent, Roberto d'Aubuisson, a right-wing candidate who has been linked to the Salvadoran death squads. The Senator called Mr. Duarte a Socialist and said Mr. d'Aubuisson's views were consistent with those of the Republican Party in the United States. The charges angered both the Administration, which denied them, and members of the Senate intelligence committee.

Mr. Helms charged that the agency had provided "comprehensive across-the-board services," including money for precinct organizers, radio and television advertisements and computer voter registration. Others on Capitol Hill added that the agency had brought in Latin and European journalists for a campaign of disinformation vilifying Mr. d'Aubuisson. They said the agency channeled more than \$960,000 to Mr. Duarte's party and more than \$437,000 to the conservative National Conciliation Party, which also opposed Mr. d'Aubuisson.

In the Senate, all 100 members have access to information gathered by the Senate intelligence committee. In the House, access of the 435 members is based on relevance to a member's work and the need to know.

In a related development, Mr.

Moynihan today proposed a single, 10-year term for the Director of Central Intelligence and a 5-year term for the Deputy Director. Both now serve at the pleasure of the President.

Mr. Moynihan said his proposal would enhance the independence of the Director and help insure that his judgments "reflect not the policy preference and predilections of the incumbent President but an independent evaluation of the facts."